

SEARCHED ~~SEARCHED~~ INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

Claim 12, lines ~~1-2~~, change "one of the claims 1 through 11" to --claim 1--.

Claim 13, lines ~~1-2~~, change "one of the claims 1 through 12" to --claim 1--.

Claim 14, lines ~~1-2~~, change "one of the claims 1 through 13" to --claim 1--.

Claim 15, line 1, change "one of the claims 1 through 4" to --claim 1--.

Claim 16, lines ~~1-2~~, change "one of the claims 3 through 15" to --claim 3--.

Claim 17, lines ~~1-2~~, change "one of the claims 14 through 16" to --claim 14--.

Claim 18, lines ~~2-3~~, change "one of the above claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 19, lines ~~2-3~~, change "one of the claims 1 through 17 or 18" to --claim 1--.

Claim 21, lines ~~2-3~~, change "one of the claims 1 through 17 <sup>or</sup> ~~and~~ 18" to --claim 1--.

#### REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the multiple dependency of certain of the dependent claims has been removed so as to avoid the surcharge associated therewith. No new matter has been introduced.